



Dedicated Schools Grant 'Safety Valve' Agreement: Haringey

1. This agreement is between the Department for Education and Haringey Council, and covers the financial years from 2022-23 to 2027-28.
2. The authority undertakes to reach a positive in-year balance on its Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) account by the end of 2027-28 and in each subsequent year. The authority undertakes to control and reduce the cumulative deficit as follows, not including any contribution made by the department through this agreement:

| Year | Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m |
|----------------|--|
| 2022-23 | £24.4m |
| 2023-24 | £26.4m |
| 2024-25 | £29.2m |
| 2025-26 | £30.8m |
| 2026-27 | £31.4m |
| 2027-28 | £29.9m |

3. The authority agrees to implement the DSG management plan that it has set out. This includes action to:
 - 3.1. Create a culture change in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) services which leads to more close working with parents and carers and clearly communicates the ordinarily available offer;
 - 3.2. Review bandings and top-up funding;

- 3.3. Review the Post-16 offer and supported internships, with the aim that more young people can move off Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) after two-year internships;
 - 3.4. Ramp up early intervention approaches with the aim of reducing the number of EHCPs over time towards national averages. Key projects include investments in early intervention in Speech, Language, and Communication (SLC), review of Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) pathways and support and increased expansion within the Haringey Language and Autism team, to provide pro-active support to education settings;
 - 3.5. Communicate expected standards to schools and colleges and upskill their workforce. This will meet the needs of children with less complex needs, with the aim of avoiding their needs escalating to them requiring an EHCP;
 - 3.6. Review Alternative Provision (AP) and commissioning. Tighter governance arrangements will be implemented to ensure that children are supported in their return to mainstream settings where possible.
4. The authority also agrees to ongoing monitoring of its performance in fulfilling this agreement. The authority will:
- 4.1. Report tri-annually (as a minimum) in writing to the Department (Funding Policy Unit) on its progress towards implementing the plan as per the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3;
 - 4.2. The monitoring reports should include progress against the conditions of grant and a financial dashboard detailing various metrics relating to demand and cost. DfE will provide a template for this;
 - 4.3. Inform the Department (Funding Policy Unit) of any unforeseen difficulties or impacts of carrying out the agreement, or any significant risks to reaching the agreed financial position as soon as they arise;
 - 4.4. Meet with the Department at any time when the Department deems it necessary to discuss progress towards the agreement.

5. The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional **£11.96 million** of DSG before the end of the financial year 2022-23. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance with the conditions set out in paragraph 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows. This funding will be provided in instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Haringey should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2027-28.

| Year | The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £m of DSG by year end |
|----------------|--|
| 2022-23 | £11.96m |
| 2023-24 | £2.99m |
| 2024-25 | £2.99m |
| 2025-26 | £2.99m |
| 2026-27 | £2.99m |
| 2027-28 | £5.98m |

6. The Department has also agreed to provide Haringey with additional capital funding to support the delivery of this agreement. Progress against delivery of those capital plans should then be integrated into the tri-annual reporting to the Department as part of the monitoring of this agreement.
7. This agreement is subject to review at any time, for example as a result of the following events:
- 7.1. Higher or lower DSG formula funding levels for the authority in future financial years than those the authority has assumed;
 - 7.2. Significant changes to national SEND policy, which impact on elements of the plan;
 - 7.3. Insufficient progress being made towards the authority reaching and sustaining an in-year balance on its DSG account as set out in the plan.

The review process will include an assessment of the impact of the change in circumstances.

On behalf of Haringey Council, signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Andy Donald - LA Chief Executive

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large loop at the start and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Jon Warlow - Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)

A handwritten signature in black ink, with the first two letters 'A' and 'G' being very large and stylized.

Ann Graham - Director of Children's Services

On behalf of the Department for Education, signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, with a large, stylized 'T' at the beginning.

Tom Goldman – Deputy Director, Funding Policy Unit